



## NSF DAY SPEAKERS—From NSF

January 22, 2016

Pasadena City College

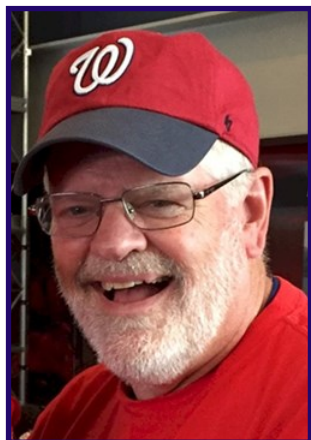


**Amanda Adams**

GEO – Geosciences

[amadams@nsf.gov](mailto:amadams@nsf.gov)

**Manda Adams** focusses on Education and Cross-Cutting Activities at NSF. She holds a BS in Meteorology, UN-Lincoln, MS and PhD in Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences, UW-Madison. She was a postdoc at the University of Calgary in the Institute for Sustainable Energy, Environment and Economy. Just prior to coming to NSF, Manda was an assistant professor at UNC-Charlotte, where she focused on the interaction between the atmosphere and energy systems. Since 2010, Manda has served on the Leadership Board of the Earth Science Women's Network (ESWN), a group which she helped acquire nonprofit status and for now serves as secretary of its Board of Directors.



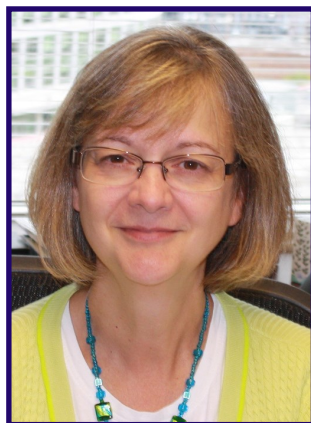
**Thomas J. Baerwald**

SBE – Social Behavioral and Economic Sciences

Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences (BCS)

[tbaerwal@nsf.gov](mailto:tbaerwal@nsf.gov)

**Tom Baerwald** is a Senior Science Advisor whose work includes service as a program director for the Geography and Spatial Sciences (GSS) Program, the Dynamics of Coupled Natural and Human Systems (CNH) Program, and the Interdisciplinary Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (IBSS) competition. An NSF employee for almost 28 years, Baerwald has served in a variety of administrative roles in multiple NSF units, and he has a reputation for promoting interdisciplinary activity and for flexible and innovative conduct of merit review at NSF.



**Anne Emig**

OISE – Office of International Science and Engineering

[ggilcni@nsf.gov](mailto:ggilcni@nsf.gov)

**Anne Emig** joined NSF in 2005 and has overseen an extensive portfolio of collaborations with Japan and other countries in East Asia. She directs the East Asia and Pacific Summer Institutes (EAPSI) program, developed NSF's Graduate Research Opportunities Worldwide (GROW) initiative and jointly managed NSF's flagship international research and education program. Anne served as head of NSF's Tokyo Regional Office for two years where she helped facilitate new NSF collaborations with Japan in the wake of the March 2011 disasters, particularly in the area of data science. Prior to joining NSF, Anne worked at the Inter-American Development Bank and in senior research and research administration positions at Columbia University's Center on Japanese Economy and Business. She completed her Master's degree and PhD studies at Columbia University, specializing in international political economy and postwar Japanese foreign policy.



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**Thomas B. Higgins**

EHR – Education and Human Resources  
Division of Undergraduate Education (DUE)  
[thhiggin@nsf.gov](mailto:thhiggin@nsf.gov)

**Tom Higgins** is a rotating program officer and a professor of chemistry at Harold Washington College (HWC) in Chicago, IL. HWC is an urban community college with a majority of the student body from groups underrepresented in STEM fields. At HWC, Tom won the “Distinguished Professor” award and chaired the Department of Physical Sciences. He is active in the American Chemical Society and currently serves on the Society Committee on Education (SOCED). In 2015, he won the ACS Stanley C. Israel Regional Award for Advancing Diversity in the Chemical Sciences.



**Tatiana (Tanya) Korelsky**

CISE – Computer and Information Science and Engineering  
Information and Intelligent Systems Division  
[tkorelsk@nsf.gov](mailto:tkorelsk@nsf.gov)

**Tanya Korelsky** has been at NSF for ten years. Her general area of expertise is in human languages technologies such as natural language and speech analysis, and synthesis used in various natural language processing applications such as text summarization, dialog systems, question answering systems, and conversational agents. She is also participating in such cross-directorate programs as CISE Research Infrastructure, Cyber-learning and Future Learning Technologies, Science of Learning Centers, Science of Learning Collaborative Networks, National Robotics Initiative, and Smart and Connected Health.



**Anne Doyle**

BFA – Budget, Finance and Award Management  
Division of Institution and Award Support (DIAS)  
[adoyle@nsf.gov](mailto:adoyle@nsf.gov)

**Anne Doyle** is a senior policy analyst who is primarily responsible for coordinating the review and approval of funding opportunity documents and certain other documents issued by NSF. Anne is responsible for reviewing each document to ensure compliance with NSF's policies and procedures, as well as applicable administrative, financial, and legal requirements. She is also the executive secretary of the Director's Review Board (DRB), an internal committee drawn from senior NSF management and chaired by the NSF deputy director. The DRB serves as the Director's forum for reviewing recommendations to the National Science Board on a variety of critical NSF awards and actions.



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### **Susan Mason**

OLPA – Office of the Director's Office of Legislative and Public Affairs

External Affairs

[smason@nsf.gov](mailto:smason@nsf.gov)

**Susan Mason** joined the National Science Foundation as a legislative specialist in 1990, rising to become head of External Affairs in 2000. Among her other achievements, she was director of Congressional relations at the National Archives & Records Administration, Congressional relations specialist at the Civil Aeronautics Board, and early in her career, she produced and directed a monthly, two-hour, live radio program, organized major concerts, and arranged station promotions and contests for KSON AM & FM in La Mesa, CA. As head of External Affairs for NSF, Susan audits and plans strategic communications, as well as develops/produces media programs, media relations initiatives, and communication training programs.



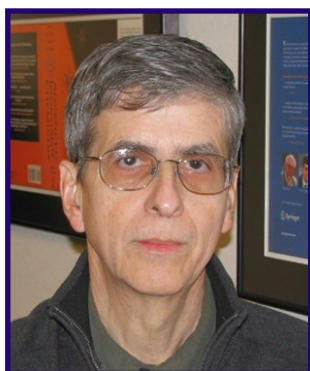
### **Christopher R. Meyer**

BIO – Biological Sciences

Division of Biological Infrastructure (DBI)

[roconnor@nsf.gov](mailto:roconnor@nsf.gov)

**Chris Meyer** works in a variety of programs including REU, RCN-UBE, iCORPS, and the Broadening Participation group in BIO. After postdoctoral work at Michigan State University, he joined the faculty in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at CSUF in 1994. His experiences at Fullerton include service as the liaison for research and faculty grant writing and as chair of his department from 2010-15. He currently serves on the national ACS Committee on Professional Training, as well as the Minority Affairs Committee of the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. In 2008 to 2009, he served as a rotating program director at NSF in BIO's Division of Molecular and Cellular Biosciences (MCB).



### **Carlos Murillo**

MPS – Math and the Physical Sciences

Division of Chemistry (CHE)

[Cmurillo@nsf.gov](mailto:Cmurillo@nsf.gov)

**Carlos A. Murillo** studied chemistry at the Universidad de Costa Rica (UCR) and then Texas A&M University (TAMU) where he worked with F. Albert Cotton. After a postdoctoral stay with Prof. Malcolm Chisholm at Princeton, he returned to the UCR where he quickly became a full professor. He then moved to TAMU and eventually to NSF. He is a member of the Costa Rican Academy of Sciences, a fellow of the AAAS and is interested in compounds with metal-to-metal bonds. He has continued his research as an adjunct professor at TAMU and at the University of Texas at El Paso. He is a fellow of the AAAS and a charter member of the Costa Rican Academy of Sciences. He has published 300 research papers and two books.





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**Zhijian (ZJ) Pei**  
ENG – Engineering  
Division of Chemistry (CHE)  
[sscheine@nsf.gov](mailto:sscheine@nsf.gov)

**ZJ Pei** is the program director of the Manufacturing Machines and Equipment program. He is also a professor in the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Systems Engineering at Kansas State University. He received his PhD in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and is an ASME Fellow. He received an NSF Director's Award for Excellence Program Director in 2015, and an NSF CAREER award in 2004. He initiated the CAREER Proposal Writing workshop in 2004. Sponsored by NSF, this workshop has been held in different locations across the country annually since 2004 and has been attended by more than 1,400 faculty members.



**Lisa-Joy Zgorski**  
OLPA – Office of the Director's Office of Legislative and Public Affairs  
External Affairs  
[lisajoy@nsf.gov](mailto:lisajoy@nsf.gov)

**Lisa-Joy Zgorski** is a public affairs specialist and NSF Days lead. Since joining the NSF in 2007, she has received Director's Awards for work with CISE, EHR and the National Science Board. Her other beats have included NSF's International office, SBE, Physics and Astronomy. Lisa-Joy served as a legislative aide for U.S. Rep. Barbara Kennelly (CT); press secretary for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and (then-gubernatorial candidate) Gov. Dan Malloy of Connecticut, and as a public affairs specialist in the press offices of Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, the Office of Management and Budget and The Century Foundation. She holds an MPP, Harvard Kennedy School of Government; a B.A., Mount Holyoke College; and certificates in policy studies from Dartmouth College and the Charles University Law Faculty in Prague.



## NSF DAY SPEAKERS—LUNCH PANEL

### Lessons from the Field:

#### NSF funded researchers share best practices



**Kathleen Alfano**

College of the Canyons

[kalfano37@gmail.com](mailto:kalfano37@gmail.com)

**Kathleen Alfano** has a PhD from UCLA in higher education with a cognate in administration and evaluation. She has served as the director of the California Consortium for Engineering Advances in Technological Education (CREATE) based at College of the Canyons since 1996. At College of the Canyons she is a tenured faculty member and also served as Dean of Professional Programs and Academic Computing from 1996-2000. She currently directs and is principal investigator for NSF's Advanced Technological Education (ATE) CREATE Center of Excellence. Kathleen served as a program director at NSF and co-lead of the ATE program in 2007-2008. She was the only community college representative on the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Workforce Trends in the U.S. Energy and Mining Industries which released its report in March 2013.



**Elizabeth Dinsdale**

San Diego State University

[jpeters@caltech.edu](mailto:jpeters@caltech.edu)

**Elizabeth Dinsdale** received her PhD from James Cook University, Australia and is an associate professor at San Diego State University where she uses metagenomics to investigate the changes of microbes and viruses on coral reefs and kelp forests. Using metagenomics, she described the functional distribution of microbes across nine biomes, published in *Nature*. Dinsdale developed an undergraduate class where the students run DNA sequencing instruments and their research has been published in *Environmental Microbiology*, *BMC Genomic*, *Frontiers* and *Plos One*. Elizabeth is a Pi or Co-Pi on three NSF grants, from the Division of Biological Infrastructure, the Division of Molecular and Cellular Biosciences, and the Division of Undergraduate Education.



**Jonas C. Peters**

California Institute of Technology

[jpeters@caltech.edu](mailto:jpeters@caltech.edu)

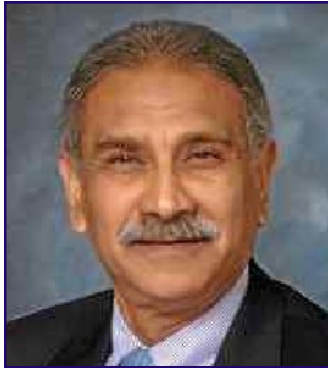
**Jonas C. Peters** is a Bren Professor of Chemistry at Caltech. In 1993 he received his bachelor of science degree in chemistry at the University of Chicago. Jonas then spent a year as a Marshall Scholar at the University of Nottingham, UK, before returning to the United States to begin his doctoral studies at MIT in synthetic inorganic chemistry. After receiving his PhD in 1998, Jonas moved on to UC Berkeley for a year as a Miller Postdoctoral Fellow and then started his independent career here at Caltech in 1999. His research program focuses on the synthesis and study of unusual inorganic molecules.



## NSF DAY SPEAKERS—From California

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### **Rajen Vurdien**

Superintendent President  
Pasadena City College

**Rajen Vurdien**, President of Fullerton College since 2010, became superintendent president of Pasadena City College in April of 2015. Prior to Fullerton, he had served for six years as vice president for instruction at Saddleback College in Mission Viejo. A native of the island nation of Mauritius, he came to the United States in 1985 from China where as a United Nations volunteer working for the UN Development Program, he taught English and ran the UN language programs. He has held many academic positions, including director of graduate programs in education and professor of reading at Gwynedd Mercy College; associate professor and chairman of reading at Long Island University; and instructor of reading and also dean of language arts and physical education at Long Beach City College, as well as teaching positions at Cerritos College and Cypress College. He earned his BA and MA from the University of Upper Brittany, Rennes, France, and a Post Graduate Certificate in Education from the Mauritius Institute of Education. He completed an MEd and a PhD in psychological studies in education with a focus on the psychology of reading at Temple University and an MBA from Long Island University. He later participated in the Harvard University Management Development Program.



### **The Honorable Judy May Chu**

Member, U.S. House of Representative  
California's Twenty-seventh Congressional District

**Judy Chu** was elected to represent the 27th Congressional District in Congress in July of 2009. Her district includes Pasadena and the west San Gabriel Valley of Southern California. She serves on the House Judiciary Committee, on which she is a member of its Subcommittees on Intellectual Property and the Internet, as well as Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security and Investigations. In addition, she serves on the House Small Business Committee, which oversees the Small Business Administration. Chu is the ranking member on the Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Tax and Capital Access. She is also a member of the Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce, as well as the Subcommittee on Health and Technology. Since 2011, Chu has been chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus. She also founded and co-chairs the Congressional Creative Rights Caucus and serves in leadership of the House Democratic Caucus as a member of the Steering and Policy Committee,